

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/697,050

Examiner

John A. McPherson

Applicant(s)

TADA ET AL.

Art Unit

1756

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Preliminary Amendment filed 10/31/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 8-21.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 31 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/075,761.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/31/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the first sentence of the specification, after "2002", the phrase --, now abandoned-- has been inserted.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Information Disclosure Statement filed 10/31/03 has been considered. The fifth foreign patent document cited on the Form PTO/SB/08 has been lined through because it is a duplicate entry of the first foreign patent document (JP 2000-123978).

Pertinent Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 6,106,352 discloses a method for fabricating an organic electroluminescent device comprising the steps of forming a set of first electrode elements on a support, forming an insulation layer to overlie the first electrode elements as well as the open regions between the first electrode elements, and removing a surface portion of the

insulation layer to expose top surfaces of the first electrode elements, such that the first electrode elements and the insulation layer have a common top surface.

JP 2000-252078 discloses a method of manufacturing an organic electroluminescent display comprising the step of making the surface of a first electrode line flush with the surface of an insulating film for insulating between the first electrode lines by polishing.

US 6,639,358 discloses a method of manufacturing an organic electroluminescent device comprising the steps of forming a plurality of striped grooves in an insulating substrate, and forming a plurality of lower electrodes substantially buried in the striped grooves.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In a method for manufacturing an organic electroluminescent device comprising the steps of forming a conductive layer on an insulating substrate; forming a photoresist pattern layer having a plurality of striped elements along a first direction on said conductive layer; etching said conductive layer using said photoresist pattern layer as an etch mask to form striped lower electrodes; depositing an insulating layer on said photoresist pattern layer and on said insulating substrate between said lower electrodes; performing a lift-off operation upon said photoresist pattern layer to remove said photoresist pattern layer and a part of said insulating layer on said photoresist pattern layer; forming at least on organic thin film layer including an emitting layer on

said insulating layer and said lower electrodes; and forming a plurality of striped upper electrodes on said organic thin film layer along a second direction different from said first direction, the prior art does not teach or suggest the method wherein the etching of said conductive layer is conducted by a dry etching process using a first plasma gas in a chamber, and the depositing of the insulating layer is conducted by a plasma deposition process using a second plasma gas in said chamber.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John A. McPherson whose telephone number is (571) 272-1386. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Huff can be reached on (571) 272-1385. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



John A. McPherson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1756

JAM
3/15/05